

doors away and see if there is a sniper on the roof. I basically expect to be shot any day. . . . It's a war zone. . . . It's very frightening and it ruins your life''.

Now, I recognize that there is a deep divide on the issue of reproductive freedom. And I recognize that there are many heartfelt feelings on both sides of the aisle and even within my own caucus. But, no matter which side of this debate you are on, we should all be able to agree that violence is never the answer.

So today I urge all my colleagues to join me in condemning the kind of senseless violence that led to the death of Dr. George Tiller.

NATIONAL CANCER RESEARCH MONTH

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize May as National Cancer Research Month. This year, nearly 1.5 million Americans will be diagnosed with cancer and more than 500,000 will die from the disease. Of course, when we talk about cancer, we are referring to more than 200 diseases but taken together, cancer remains the leading cause of death for Americans under age 85, and the second leading cause of death overall.

In my capacity as a member of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, I have spent my career fighting alongside my colleagues to provide increased funding for medical research to ensure that organizations like the National Institutes of Health have the ability to continue their critical lifesaving work. It remains my hope that, as the NIH continues to provide us with new and innovative research and treatments, we will continue to provide them with the resources they need.

As a person directly affected by cancer, I believe we must continue to strengthen our Nation's commitment to this lifesaving research for the health and well-being of all Americans. The nation's investment in cancer research is having a remarkable impact. Discoveries and developments in prevention, early detection, and more effective treatments have helped to find cures for many types of cancers, and have converted others into manageable chronic conditions. The 5-year survival rate for all cancers has improved over the past 30 years to more than 65 per cent, and advances in cancer research have had significant implications for the treatment of other costly diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, Alzheimer's, HIV/AIDS and macular degeneration.

I take this opportunity not only to mention the value and importance of cancer research, but also to remember the people in my life who have been touched by this disease. Last year alone, we lost not only my sister Martha, but my dear friend Ted Kennedy to aggressive forms of cancer. Like many of my constituents whose lives have

been touched by cancer, I think of them every day—and their battles strengthen my resolve to fight for better treatment and more cures.

I want to thank every one of my constituents who have come to my office to meet with my staff and me about this disease. It is no secret that cancer touches the lives of more Americans than those who are just diagnosed with it—friends and family also face the difficulty of supporting their loved ones through these hard times. I know how much time, effort and resources they expend on these trips. Many of them are sick or in recovery, or taking care of very ill loved ones, yet they still find the time to come down and share their stories with us, and I thank them for it. Their stories, anecdotes and struggles give a face to the people all across the country whose lives are touched by this important research, and hearing about them help us to do our jobs better. We could not have gotten health care reform passed without their constant efforts and support.

In commemorating May as National Cancer Research Month, we recognize the importance of cancer research and the invaluable contributions made by scientists and clinicians across the U.S. who are working not only to overcome this devastating disease, but also to prevent it. I lend my support as a father of two girls, as a husband, and as a public servant to supporting those who struggle with this deadly disease and I urge my colleagues to join me and do the same.

MILITARY AND OVERSEAS VOTER EMPOWERMENT (MOVE) ACT OF 2009

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, since becoming chairman of the Committee on Rules and Administration with jurisdiction over Federal elections, I have come to have a better appreciation for and deeper understanding of the obstacles and barriers that our military men and women serving abroad and at home and U.S. citizens living in foreign lands encounter when they try to vote.

As I explained at a Rules Committee hearing held in May of 2009, every couple of years around election time, there is a great push to improve military and overseas voting. But as soon as the election is over, Congress all too often forgets the plight of these voters.

But last year, Congress delivered. Our motive was simple—we wanted to break down the barriers to voting for our soldiers, sailors, and citizens living overseas. On a bipartisan basis, we agreed that it was unacceptable that in the age of global communications, many active military, their families, and thousands of other Americans living, working, and volunteering in foreign countries cannot cast a ballot at home while they are serving or living overseas. For our military, what especially moved us to act was the fact that they can fight and put their life

on the line for their country, but they can't choose their next commander-in-chief. This shouldn't happen—not in the United States of America where elections are the bedrock of our democracy.

With the 2010 elections less than 7 months away, a new law is on the books. The provisions of the Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act, MOVE Act, of 2009 were incorporated in Public Law 111-84, the National Defense Authorization Act of 2010. This law will make it easier for members of our Armed Forces and citizens living abroad to receive accurate, timely election information and the resources and logistical support to register and vote and have that vote count.

Mr. President, a legislative history of the MOVE Act is as follows:

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF THE MOVE ACT

American citizens believe voting is one of the most treasured of our liberties and a right to be defended at any cost. It is therefore unacceptable that our military men and women serving abroad and at home, who put their lives on the line every day to defend this right, often face obstacles in exercising their right to vote.

Empirical evidence confirms that members of the military and citizens living overseas who have attempted to vote through the absentee balloting procedures that has been in place for the last 30 years were often unable to do so. The reasons were many, including insufficient information about military and overseas voting procedures, failure by States to send absentee ballots in time for military and overseas voters to cast them, and endemic bureaucratic obstacles that prevent these voters from having their votes counted. While the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, UOCAVA, enacted in 1986, created a Federal framework for both military and overseas citizens to vote it was clear that, in order to break down these barriers to voting, UOCAVA was in need of an overhaul.

A history of congressional efforts to aid military and overseas voters highlights the obstacles faced by these voters. In 1942, the first Federal law was enacted to help military members vote in Federal elections. The Soldier Voting Act of 1942 was the first law to guarantee Federal voting rights for servicemembers during wartime. It allowed servicemembers to vote in elections for Federal office without having to register and instituted the first iteration of the Federal Post Card Application for servicemembers to request an absentee ballot. Though this was a commendable first effort by Congress, the 1942 law's provisions only applied during a time of war, and barriers to voting remained. In 1951, President Truman commissioned a study from the American Political Science Association on the problem of military voting. Recognizing the difficulties faced by military members serving overseas during World War II and the Korean War in trying to vote, President Truman wrote a letter to Congress that called on our legislators to fix the problem. In response, Congress passed the Federal Voting Assistance Act, FVAA, in 1955 which recommended—but did not guarantee—absentee registration and voting for military members, Federal employees serving abroad, and members of service organizations affiliated with the military. In 1968, FVAA was amended to cover U.S. citizens temporarily living outside of the United States, thus increasing the number and scope of U.S. citizens that fell within the law's purview. In 1975, the Overseas Citizens